

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-09 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 TRSE-00 NIC-01 /077 W
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R 131130Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1991

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USUN 0491

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 1051

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR, RO

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER'S TRIP TO ANAKARA

REF: ATHENS 1689, ATHENS 1732, THESSALONIKI 0150

1. AT CONCLUSION OF A MEETING ON OTHER MATTERS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU MARCH 12, I ASKED HIM FOR ANY ASSESSMENT HE WAS WILLING TO SHARE ON CYPRUS SITUATION AND IN PARTICULAR FOR COMMENTS ON HIS TRIP TO ANKARA MARCH 7-8.

2. MACOVESCU SIAD ANKARA VISIT, AND HIS EARLIER TRIP TO ATHENS (BUCHAREST 0670 NOTAL) WAS MOTIVATED IN LARGE MEASURE BECAUSE OF A ROMANIAN APPRECIATION THAT CYPRUS SITUATION IS DETERIORATING. HE STRESSED THAT GOR STRONG INTEREST IN SITUATION IS BASED FUNDAMENTALLY ON FACT IT IS A BALKAN NEIGHBOR, AND AS CEAUSESCU HAD SAID PUBLICLY ANY FIRE IN A CLOSE NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE HAS IMMEDIATE AND SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR ONE'S OWN HOUSE. VISITS TO ATHENS AND
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ANKARA WERE PREMISED ON THIS REALITY.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER STATED ROMANIA HAD NO PRETENTIONS THAT IT COULD SOLVE OR EVEN PLAY A CENTRAL ROLE IN SOLUTION TO CYPRUS PROBLEM. BUT FOR REASONS OF NATIONAL SELF-INTEREST GOR FELT COMPELLED TO MAKE MAJOR EFFORT TO FIND SOME FORMULA FOR BRINGING DISPUTANTS TOGETHER AGAIN. HE SAID ROMANIA WAS NOT CONCERNED ABOUT WHERE AND UNDER WHOSE AUSPICES EVENTUAL NEGOTIATIONS TOOK PLACE. IMPORTANT POINT AT PRESENT TIME IS TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTIES FOR INFORMAL, PRE-NEGOTIATION TALKS. IN THIS RESPECT AS A BALKAN COUNTRY, TIED TO ITS NEIGHBORS BY HISTORY, TRADE, AND CULTURE, ROMANIA'S BONA FIDES ARE AS GOOD AS ANY AND BETTER THEN MANY.

4. MACOVESCU SAID IT IS ON THIS BASIS THAT THE GOR HAD CALLED FOR A BALKAN CONFERENCE. HE WENT TO SOME LENGTHS TO CLARIFY WHAT HE CALLED SOME MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE ROMANIAN APPROACH. IT WAS NOT INTENDED THAT SUCH A CONFERENCE WULD REPLACE ANY OTHER FORUM -- BE IT INTER-COMMUNAL, GREEK-TURKISH, UN AUSPICES OR THE SOVIET CONFERENCE IDEA. FURTHERMORE, THE BALKAN CONFERENCE WAS NOT CONCEIVED OF AS A NEGOTIATING FORUM, BUT RATHER A DEVICE TO SHARE IDEAS THAT MIGHT HELP GET THINGS BACK ON TRACK AND AT LEAST DEFUSE THE SITUATION SOMEWHAT. AS THE COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED AFTER HIS VISIT TO GREECE INDICATED, ATHENS IS INTERESTED. ANKARA HOWEVER HAS SAID NO, PRINCIPALLY BECAUSE IT DOES NOT WISH TO INTERNATIONALIZE THE PROBLEM ANY MORE THAN IS ALREADY THE CASE. MACOVESCU CONCLUDED THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY STABLE TURKISH GOVERNMENT ONE COULD EXPECT LITTLE ELSE FROM THE TURKS. BUT THE PROBLEM REMAINS, IN THE GOR'S VIEW IT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY EXACERBATED, AND ROMANIA WILL KEEP TRYING TO FIND A FORMULA WHICH WOULD ENHANCE THE SUCCESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

5. COMMENT: I WAS STRUCK BY THE FACT THAT DURING THE COURSE OF HIS EXPOSITION MACOVESCU WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO UNDERSCORE THE FACT THAT WHILE THE US GEOGRAPHICALLY IS FAR DISTANT FROM CYPRUS, NONETHELESS ITS ACTIVE INTEREST IN SEEKING A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM IS A FACTOR
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THE GOR UNDERSTANDS, APPROVES, AND ENCOURAGES.
BARNES

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